In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method for the recombination of nucleic acid constructs, comprising:

a) providing:

i) a first nucleic acid construct comprising, in operable order, an origin of replication, a first sequence-specific recombinase target site, and a nucleic acid of interest;

ii) a second nucleic acid construct comprising, in operable order, an origin of replication, a [gene expression] transcription regulatory element and a second sequence-specific recombinase target site adjacent to and downstream from said [gene expression] transcription regulatory element; and

iii) a site-specific recombinase;

b) contacting said first and said second nucleic acid constructs with said site-specific recombinase under conditions such that said first and second nucleic acid constructs are recombined to form a third nucleic acid construct, wherein said nucleic acid of interest is operably linked to said [gene expression] transcription regulatory element.

2. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said [gene expression] transcription regulatory element comprises a promoter element.

3. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid of interest [comprises] encodes a fusion [peptide] protein.

4. (Amended) The method of Claim 3, wherein said fusion [peptide] protein comprises an affinity domain.

5. (Amended) The method of Claim 3, wherein said fusion [peptide] protein comprises an epitope tag.

26. (Twice Amended) A method for the cloning of nucleic acid libraries, comprising:

a) providing:

i) a plurality of first nucleic acid constructs comprising, in operable order, an origin of replication, a first sequence-specific recombinase target site, and a nucleic acid member from a nucleic acid library;

ii) a plurality of second nucleic acid constructs comprising, in operable order, an origin of replication, a [gene expression] transcription regulatory element and a second sequence-specific recombinase target site adjacent to and downstream from said [gene expression] transcription regulatory element; and

iii) a site-specific recombinase;

b) contacting said plurality of first and second nucleic acid constructs with said site-specific recombinase under conditions such that said plurality of first and second nucleic acid constructs are recombined to form a plurality of third nucleic acid constructs, wherein

said nucleic acid members from said nucleic acid library are operably linked to said [gene expression] transcription regulatory elements.

Please add the following claims:

37. A method for regulated recombination in host cells that constitutively express a recombinase, comprising:

a) providing:

i) a host cell expressing a recombinase;

ii) a first nucleic acid construct comprising a Univector, wherein said Univector further comprises a selectable marker gene;

iii) a second nucleic acid construct comprising an origin of replication, a first site-specific recombinase target site, and a second site-specific recombinase target site that differs in sequence from said first site-specific recombinase site such that said recombinase will not initiate recombination between said first and second site-specific recombinase sites; and

b) introducing said first and second nucleic acid constructs into said host cell under conditions such that said first and second nucleic acid constructs are recombined.

38. The method of claim 37, further comprising the step of selecting for a desired recombinant nucleic acid molecule using said selectable marker gene.

~~39.~~ 30. A host cell expressing a recombinant nucleic acid construct prepared according to the method of claim ~~37~~ 28, wherein said host cell constitutively expresses a recombinase.

~~40.~~ 31. A method for regulated recombination in host cells that constitively express a recombinase, comprising:

a) providing:

iv) a host cell expressing a recombinase;

v) a first nucleic acid construct comprising an origin of replication, a first site-specific recombinase site, a second site-specific recombinase site that differs in sequence from said first site-specific recombinase site such that said recombinase will not initiate recombination between said first and second site-specific recombinase sites, and a selectable marker gene between said first and second site-specific recombinase sites;

vi) a second nucleic acid construct comprising a Univector, wherein said Univector further comprises a selectable marker gene;

b) introducing said first and second nucleic acid constructs into said host cell under conditions such that said first and second nucleic acid constructs are recombined.

E3 Cont

32 The method of claim 31, further comprising the step of selecting for a desired recombinant nucleic acid molecule using said selectable marker gene.

33 A host cell expressing a recombinant nucleic acid construct prepared according to the method of claim 31, wherein said host cell constitutively expresses a recombinase.

REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is Baylor College of Medicine, One Baylor Plaza, Houston Texas.

RELATED APPEAL AND INTERFERENCES

There are no related appeals or interferences.

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

From the Final Action dated February 3, 2000, the disposition of the Claims is as follows:

Claims 1-36 are pending in the Application.

Claims 21-25, 27-29 and 36 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1-20, 26, 30, 31 and 34 are rejected.

Claims 32 and 33 are objected to.

Claim 35 is allowed.